



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged in Unprovoked Sucker Punch of Woman in Venice

A Santa Monica man has been charged with punching a woman out just outside of a Venice market, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Michael Joseph Fino (dob 4/20/72) was charged yesterday with one felony count of battery with serious bodily injury in case SA094086.

The criminal complaint includes the allegation that Fino has several prior convictions including one for battery with serious bodily injury in 1994, possession of methamphetamine for sale and identity theft in 2007 and second-degree burglaries in 2011 and 2013.

Fino pleaded not guilty at yesterday's arraignment and is scheduled to return on Nov. 3 to Department W31 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

The defendant is charged with unexpectedly punching a woman he did not know outside of a Venice market after the two had a short interaction inside the market on Oct. 4, prosecutors said.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.